PATENT

Serial No.: 09/838,093

Attorney Docket No. PC10751A

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of determining a duration of adequate immune memory induced by a vaccine for a disease in an animal, the method comprising:

- (a) selecting a plurality of study animals from one or more clinics, where each animal has been vaccinated with the vaccine and where a time since a last vaccination date is at least about one year and the animal has been living in a field environment for at least about one year after the last vaccination date and each animal has a vaccine administration record;
- (b) assigning each animal an indicator of immune memory, such that each animal that does not have a marker of immunity is assigned a first indicator and each animal that has the marker of immunity is assigned a second indicator; and
- (c) determining the duration of adequate immune memory from: (i) the first indicator and the second indicator; and (ii) the vaccine administration record.

  wherein the duration of adequate immune memory is determined from a duration of adequate immune memory estimation equation, said duration of adequate immune memory estimation equation, said duration of the first and the second indicators and the vaccine administration record.

Claim 2 (canceled).

Claims 3-4 (original).

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein assigning each animal the indicator of immune memory comprises:

- (a) evaluating a blood serum sample from each animal that has not shown clinical signs of the disease since the last vaccination date to detect an adequate antibody titer of at least about 2 for the disease;
- (b) administering a booster dose of the vaccine to each animal that does not display the adequate antibody titer;

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(c) evaluating a blood serum sample from each animal that has received the booster dose 3 days to 28 days following the booster dose to detect an adequate anamnestic response of at least about a 4-fold increase in serum antibody titer; and

(d) assigning the first indicator to each animal that displayed clinical signs of the disease since the last vaccination date or that neither displays the adequate antibody titer nor displays the adequate anamnestic response and assigning the second indicator to each animal that displays either the adequate antibody titer or the sufficient adequate anamnestic response.

## Claims 6-9 (original)

Claim 10 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, which <u>further</u> comprises:

- a) assigning each animal that has displayed clinical signs of the disease since the last vaccination or that neither displays a cellular immune response, nor an adequate antibody titer of at least about 2 for the disease, nor an adequate cellular titer nor an adequate anamnestic response of at least about a 4-fold increase in serum antibody titer the first indicator;
- b) designating each animal which is not assigned the first indicator as either a high risk animal or a low risk animal;
- c) assigning each low risk animal that displays either a cellular immune response or that displays either the adequate antibody titer or the sufficient adequate anamnestic response the second indicator;
- d) assigning each high risk animal that has no history of the disease in question and where there is evidence of prevalence of the disease in question in the region the second indicator; and
- e) assigning each high risk animal that has no history of the disease in question that displays either the cellular immune response, or the adequate antibody titer or the sufficient adequate anamnestic response, the second indicator.